

## ABSTRACT

A polypeptide, designated as "*Streptococcus uberis* Adhesion Molecule" (SUAM), and fragments of SUAM, prevent internalization and adherence of *Streptococcus uberis* and  
5 other streptococcal pathogens to cells. The SUAM polypeptide and fragments may be used diagnostically and therapeutically. Nucleic acid sequences encoding the SUAM polypeptide and fragments are included in the invention.